

PRM. - 1926

INFORMATION

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Hall Mills -

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The rumors around Hoboken and Jersey City says the following is indirectly the cause of the present investigation of the Halls and Mills case:- Years ago H. Otto Whittpenn was the recognized leader of Hudson County and was elected Mayor of Jersey City. Mr. Whittpenn's wife was formerly a Mrs. Alexander and her maiden name was Caroline B. Stevens. She is well known throughout the state of New Jersey on account of her activities in charitable causes, and she always held some sort of honorable public position and that she is related to the old Stevens family. She and Mr. Whittpenn were always supporters of the Democratic Party. At the time that the present Governor, A. Harry Moore ran for election, Mrs. Whittpenn Nee Stevens refused to support Governor Moore's candidacy, and did everything possible to elect Governor Moore's opponent, a man named Whitney, whom Mrs. Whittpenn said was her cousin, and stated that on account of Mr. Whitney being a blood relation she felt duty bound to do everything possible to elect him. In other words Mrs. Whittpenn then changed her politics from Democrat to Republican. Very shortly after Governor Moore was elected Mrs. Whittpenn's honorable position which she held at that time was abolished, and it is said that this created a lot of bad feeling. It is also said that in order to bring the Stevens faction into line the present mayor of Jersey City, Frank J. Hague, pressed the present Halls and Mills investigation to Governor Moore, more as a threat than anything else and after getting it started they found that on account of newspaper publicity they could not turn back, but had to go further with it. It is also said that there is quite a lot of ill feeling between Mayor Hague and Mr. Whittpenn and this feeling dates back to a political issue of some years ago.